

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 3-14 and 20-39 stand allowed.

Claims 1, 2 and 15-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Champlin (USP 6,294,896) in view of Marzalek (USP 5,162,723).

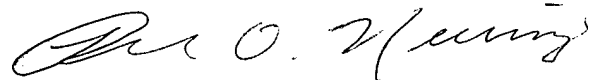
Claims 40, 41 42 and 43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Champlin and Marzalek further in view of Bazarjani et al (Bazarjani), U.S. Patent No. 6,005,506.

Applicants maintain their traversal of the rejection of Claims 1, 2 and 15-19 and traverse the new rejection of Claims 40, 41, 42 and 43. However, because the application is under final rejection and in order to expedite this application to issuance, Claims 1, 2, 19, 42 and 43 have been canceled. Claims 15-19 and 40 have been amended to depend directly, or indirectly, from allowed Claim 3. Claim 41 has been amended to depend directly from allowed Claim 20. As such, Claims 15-18, 40 and 41 should also be allowed.

Applicants anticipate filing a continuation application in order to further prosecute Claims 1, 2, 15-19 and 40-43 (15-19, 40 and 41 being in their unamended forms).

Claims 3-14 and 20-39 are allowed. Claims 15-18, 40 and 41, as amended, also stand allowable. Applicants respectfully request allowance of the application at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ron O. Neerings".

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